# Oath or Covenant,

To be taken by

All Persons within the two Kingdoms

O F

## England and Scotland.

Agreed upon at Edinburgh by the Generall Assembly, the Convention of Estates, and the Commissioners for

THE

#### PARLIAMENT

in the Kingdom of England, the 18. day of August, 1643.

And fent to the Parliament of England for the like Approbation.

This is Licensed, and Entred in the Hall-Book, according to Order.

London, Printed for Philip Lane at Grayes-Inne Gate.
September 4. 1643.

**\*** 

2 ... . And we It among the Arts

### \*\*\*\*\*

The new Oath or Covenant, to be taken by all persons within the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland.

TE Noblemen, Knights, Gentlemen, Citizens, Burgesses, Ministers of the Gospel, and Commons of all forts in the Kingdoms of England and Scotland, by the Providence of God being in one Island, under one King, and of one true Protestant Religion, having before our eyes the glory of God, and the advancement of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. the honour and happiness of the Kings Majesty and His Posterity, and the true publique Liberty, Safety, and Peace of the Kingdomes, wherein every ones private condition is included, calling to minde the treacherous and bloody Plots, conspiracies, Attempts, and Practices of the Enemies of God, against the true Religion, and profession thereof in all places, especially in this Island ever since the Reformation of Religion, and how much their rage, power and prefumption, are of late, and at this time increased and exercised; whereof the deplorable state of the Church & Kingdom of Ireland, the diffressed estate of the Church and Kingdom of England, and the dangerous estate of the Church and Kingdom of Scotland, are present and publique Testimonies; We have now at last, after other means of Supplication, Remonstrance, Protestation, and Sufferings for

(4)

for the preservation of our selves and our Religion, from utter Ruine and Destruction, according to the commendable practice of these Kingdoms in former times, and the Example of Gods people in other Nations; after mature deliberation, resolved and determined to enter into a mutuall and solemn League and Covenant, wherein we subscribe, and with our hands listed up to the most high God, do swear:

- That we shall all and each one of us, sincerely, readily and constantly, through the Grace of God, endeavour in our feverall places and callings, the preservation of the true Reformed Protestant Religion, in the Church of Scotland, in Doctrine, Worship, Discipline & Government, according to the Word of God, and the reformation of Religion in the Church of England (this Explication to be at the end of the Covenant, As far as we do, or shall in our consciences conceive to be according to the Word of God) according to the same holy Word, the Example of the last Reformed Churches, and as may bring the Church of God in both Nations to the neerest conjunction and Uniformity in Religion confession of Faith, Forme of Church-government, directory for Worship and Catechizing: That we and our Posterity after us may as Brethren, live in-Faith and Love.
- 2. That we shall in like manner, without respect of persons, indeavour the Extirpation of Popery, Prelacie. Superstition, Heresie, Schisme and Prophanenesse, and whatsoever shall be found to be contrary to found Doctrine, and the power of Godlinesse in both Nations, less

lest we partake in other mens sins, and thereby be endangered to receive of their plagues, that the Lord may be one, and his Name one in both Kingdoms.

- 3. We shall with the same since ity, realty, and constarcy, in our severall Vocations, endeavour with our
  estates and lives to preserve the Rights and Priviledges
  of Parliaments, and the Liberties of the Kingdomes
  respectively, and to preserve and defend the Kings
  Majesties person in authority, in the preservation and
  defence of the true Religion, and Liberties of the
  Kingdomes, that the world may beare witnesse with
  our consciences of our Loyalties, that we have no
  thoughts or intentions to diminish His Majesties just
  power and greatnesse.
- 4. We shall also with all faithfullnesse endeavour the discovery of all such as have beene, or shall be Incendaries, Malignants, and evil Instruments to hinder a Reformation of Religion, or to devide the King from his people, or the one Kingdom from the other, that they may be brought to publick triall, and receive condigne punishment, as the degree of their offences sha'l require or deserve, or the supream Judicatures of both Kingdomes respectively, or others having power from them for that essect, shall judge convenient.
- 5. That we shall all, and each of us, according to our place and interest, inviolably observe the Articles of the late Treaty of Peace between the two Nations, and shall by all good meanes endeavour that Justice be done without partiallity upon the Opposers of them in

Sil. -

manner aforesaid, to the end that this bleffed peace may be perpetuall to Posterity.

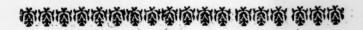
6. That we shall also to the utmost of our ability, in this common cause of Religion, Liberty, and Peace of the Kingdomes, affist and defend all those that enter into this League, and Covenant, in the maintaining Epurfuing thereof, and shall not suffer our selves directly or indirectly by whatfoever combination, perswasion or terror, to be devided or withdrawn from this bleffed Union and conjunction, whether to make defection to the contrary part, or give our selves to a detestible indifferency or neutrality in the cause of God, good of the Kingdome, and honour of the King; but shall all the dayes of our life zealoufly and constantly continue therein, against all opposition, and promote the same according to our power, against all Lets and Impediments whatfoever; and what we are not able our felves to suppresse and overcome, we shall reveale and make known, that it may be timely prevented and removed; All which we shall do as in the fight of God.

And because both Nations are guilty of many fins and provocations against God, and his Son Jesus Christ as is manifest by our present distresses and dangers, the fruits thereof; We protesse and declare before God and the world, our unfayned defire to be humbled for our own fins, and for the fins of both Nations especially, that we have not as we ought, valued the inestimable benefit of the Gospel, that we have not laboured for the power and purity thereof, that we have not endeavored to receive Christ in our hearts, which are the causes of

other

other Transgressions, so much abounding among us, and our true unfeined purpose, desire, and endeavour for our felves, and all other under our power and charge both in publick and in private, in all duty we owe to God and man, to amend our lives, and each one to go before others in the example of reall Reformation, that the Lord may turne away his wrath, and heavy indignation, and establish both the Nations in truth and peace. And this Covenant we make in the presence of Almighty God, the Searcher of all hearts, with a true intention to performe the same, as we shall answer at the great day when the fecrets of all hearts shall be difclosed, Most humbly beseeching the Lord to strengthen us by his Holy Spirit for this end, and to bleffe our defires and proceedings with fuch fuccesse, as may bring deliverance and fafety to his people, and encouragement to other christian Churches groaning under, or in danger of the yoake of Anti-christian Tyranny; to joyne in the same, or like Association or Covenant, to the glory of God, the enlargement of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, and the peace and tranquility of christian States and common-wealths.

Will: Bond Sec. Commit.



#### August 28. 1643.

He which day, the Covenant above written, being ▲ presented to the convention of estates, from the Com= muttees of the faid Estates; Committee of the generall asfembly, and Commissioners of the House of Parliament of England, & read in their audience, & they finding the same to be a ready meanes of the establishing and preserwing the true Protestant Religion, His Majesties Honour, and setling a perfett Peace in all His Majesties Dominions; hath allowed and approved, and doth hereby unanimously & affectionally allow & approve the same, and are very desirouses confident of the cheerfull concurrence of the kingdom of Eng. in this so necessary and religious a worke; in which case, as the generall Assembly doth enjoyne all the Members of this Kirke under all Ecclesiastical Consures, so they will command all the Subjects of this Kingdom under all civill paine, to swear and Subscribe the same, as shall be prescribed by the Commissioners of the KIRKE.

F & N & S.